

Message Text

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60
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 AID-20 EB-11 IGA-02 RSC-01

DRC-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 SIL-01

AGR-20 TRSE-00 SWF-02 CU-04 USIA-15 HEW-08 /151 W

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R 041554Z APR 74
FM AMEMBASSY MASERU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3969
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE
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AMEMBASSY MBABANE
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
USUN NEW YORK 199
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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MONTREAL FOR ICAO
PARIS FOR UNESCO
ROME FOR FODAG
VIENNA FOR IAEA AND UNIDO

E O 11652: NA
TAGS: EAID UNDP
SUBJ: CERP 0008 - EVALUATION OF UN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

REF : STATE 42239

1. EMBASSY ASSESSMENT IS THAT UN ASSISTANCE IN LESOTHO
GENERALLY EFFECTIVE AND WELL COORDINATED WITH HOST GOVERN-
MENT AND OTHER DONORS. CANNOT HELP, HOWEVER, QUESTION WHETHER
92 EXPATRIATE PERSONNEL ON HAND FOR UNDP, UNIDO, ILO, FAO,
UNESCO, WHO AND ITU ALL NECESSARY FOR MODEST PROGRAM LEVEL.

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2. UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE GENERALLY EFFECTIVE IN LEAD-

ING AND COORDINATING ALL UN ACTIVITIES LESOTHO. WHO IS ONLY UN AGENCY WITH OFFICE IN COUNTRY. OTHER AGENCIES INCLUDE LESOTHO ON REGIONAL BASIS AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES PERFORCE RELY ON UNDP RES RES FOR LOCAL GUIDANCE AND ASSISTANCE IN DEALING WITH GOVERNMENT. RESREP'S RELATIONS WITH GOVERNMENT THROUGH CENTRAL PLANNING OFFICE QUITE GOOD ALTHOUGH CPO APPARENTLY UNEASY ABOUT COMPETITION FROM NEW SENIOR UNDP EMPLOYEE WITH RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ATTRACTING AND COORDINATING AID. THIS EMPLOYEE HAS NO LOCAL PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITIES AND IS FILLING EXPERIMENTAL POSITION TO BRING AS MUCH AID TO LESOTHO AS POSSIBLE.

3. COOPERATION BETWEEN UNDP AND IBRD ONLY EVIDENT IN SOIL CONSERVATION BUT IN PPIS FIELD THERE IS PERIODIC CONSULTATION AND EXCHANGE OF PERSONNEL BETWEEN LERIBE (UNDP) AND THABA BOSIU (IBRD) AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS. UNICEF REP FROM LUSAKA ATTENDS COUNTRY PROGRAMMING EXERCISE AS OBSERVER.

4. COORDINATION OF ALL EXTERNAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NOMINALLY A LESOTHO GOVERNMENT FUNCTION BUT UNDP ASSISTS. UNDP LESOTHO CONTACTS AT LEAST ANNUALLY DONORS WITHOUT RESIDENT MISSIONS AND MEETS THEIR REPRESENTATIVES WHEN IN LESOTHO. ONLY UK AND U.S. HAVE RESIDENT MISSIONS AND CONTACT IS MORE OR LESS CONTINUAL. COORDINATION EFFORT LIKELY TO BE ENHANCED BY NEW SENIOR EMPLOYEE MENTIONED PARA 1 ABOVE.

5. LESOTHO ONE OF FIRST TO HAVE COUNTRY PROGRAM APPROVED. TWO TRIPARTITE ANNUAL REVIEWS HAVE BEEN HELD SINCE WITH GOVERNMENT AND MINISTRIES CONCERNED. ONE RESULT HAS BEEN TERMINATION OF ASSIGNMENTS OF 30 PER CENT OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PERSONNEL ON SMALL-SCALE PROJECTS. ON LARGE-SCALE PROJECTS, CONTRACTS OF TEN PER CENT OF SUCH PERSONNEL SHORTENED AND ONE UN ADVISER FIRED. RESREP CONSIDERS THAT TRIPARTITE REVIEWS HAVE PROVOKED GREATER GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN AND APPRECIATION OF PROJECTS. HE ESTIMATES REVIEWS PRODUCE NEAR-IMMEDIATE IMPROVEMENT IN ABOUT 50 PER CENT OF PROBLEMS RAISED WITH GOVERNMENT. RESULTS OF THESE REVIEWS CONSIDERED SO IMPORTANT BY GOVERNMENT THAT IT INTENDS TO ASK ALL DONORS TO PARTICIPATE IN SIMILAR REVIEWS TO IMPROVE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION. REVIEWS WILL PROBABLY BE DONE BY SECTOR TO ALLOW BETTER UNDERSTANDING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF DEVELOPMENT PROGRESS.

6. ABOUT HALF OF UN STAFF WITHOUT COUNTERPARTS. GOL HAS MAJOR FINANCIAL AND MANPOWER CONSTRAINTS IN PROVIDING COUNTERPART PERSONNEL BUT RESREP BELIEVES LESOTHO DOING ITS SHARE TO BEST ITS ABILITY. LESOTHO GIVES HIGH PRIORITY TO PROVIDING COUNTERPART IF AVAILABLE. IF NOT AVAILABLE, IT HELPS IDENTIFY PERSONNEL FOR TRAINING. AS EXAMPLE OF PROGRESS, DIAMOND

EXPLORATION PROJECT HAS FOUR COUNTERPARTS TODAY AGAINST NONE

TWO YEARS AGO.

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